



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## **Senior Affairs Advisory Board (SAAB)**

### **Minutes**

### **Wednesday, May 3, 2006**

Meeting was called to order at 11:11 a.m. by Chairperson Pat Ford.

**Members Present:** Millie Acasio, Sam Duran, John Patrick Ford, Leane Marchese, Sharon McColl, Cheryl Wilson, Floyd Willis **Excused Absences:** Dolli Cutler, Rosemary White-Pope, Floyd Willis **Staff Present:** Diana Gray **Guests:** Matt Awbrey, Barbara Ayers, April Chesebro, Burt Disner, Raquel Marquez, Kristi Fenick, Joanne Price

#### **Modifications to the Agenda:**

Under New Business, add topic of SAAB vacancy and also under New Business, add Home Care Council Recommendation for Caregivers.

**Minutes:** Cheryl Wilson moved to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2006 as presented. Leane Marchese seconded. The minutes were approved as submitted.

#### **City of San Diego CERT Program Manager Barbara Ayers: Overview Presentation on the City's Community Emergency Response Team**

The Certified Emergency Response Team Program was established 2 years ago in response to the Cedar Fires disaster in San Diego. The Fire Department as part of the Community Outreach decided to start a CERT Program to better prepare the public for any possible disasters. This program targets outreach to community groups, businesses and individuals.

There are two ways to become CERT certified. The traditional way to become CERT certified involves a 24 hour training program (FEMA requires 20 hours). The training takes place at the Regional training facility. This is a six week class that is taught for four hours a week on either Tuesday evening or Saturday morning. The second alternative is called the Fast Track Academy and is initially a CERT class available on-line at the individuals on pace followed by four, 4-hour classes. The business community seems to prefer this second alternative.

CERT in San Diego's strength is that this is a volunteer program and does not address some of the other issues that SAAB is concerned about regarding transportation. This program is evolving and Barbara Ayers would like to foster a relationship between SAAB and the City program as the program evolves.

Floyd raised the possibility of AIS being able to couple efforts with a prepared list of those citizens in need within the community and the City's Fire Department to be able to deploy needed services and evacuation efforts to those people in need. This is an area to be explored within the coming year.

A concern for a need to have volunteers go through a screening process to check on backgrounds was voiced. That is something that will be explored at a later date due to funding considerations.

Barbara Ayers recommended that families and caregivers prepare for anywhere from 3 day coverage to 3 weeks for disasters in having food, water, medication and any other necessary supplies available.

### **Old Business:**

**Housing Committee (Cheryl Wilson):** There was no new information reported as the Housing Committee did not meet in April. However, Cheryl reported that after talking to Paul Downey and with her daily exposure to the senior situation in San Diego, it is becoming even more critical that low-income housing be made available for those seniors living below the poverty line.

Leane Marchese was happy to report that ElderHelp was awarded the Shared Housing Contract with the City this year.

### **Transportation Committee (Floyd Willis):**

Floyd Willis reported on the Coordinated Transportation System FACT. SANDAG has decided that they should no longer be the CTSA and so FACT has stepped up and said that they would like to act in that capacity. Starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, FACT may be the organization taking over the CTSA role.

Floyd was quick to point out that SANDAG still needs to be in the picture as they are the funding agency as far as transportation monies and grants are concerned. SANDAG still controls the dollars and the fares for that matter.

He announced

**AIS Advisory Council Report (Dolli Cutler):** Although Dolli was not present to report on what was happening with AIS, Floyd was able to report that the AIS Aging Summit at the Town & Country on June 2, 2006. It's free for seniors and he believes that there is a nominal charge for non-seniors. The three areas to be covered by the conference are Older Work Force, Mental Health, and Obesity.

**Membership:** The board has 3 vacant seats. This issue has been sent to the Mayor for action.

**Sarbane's Resolution:** This had been scheduled to go before the Rules Committee on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Leane will contact Andrew Poat to see where this.

**Council Presentations:** The presentation that Leane Marchese made before council yesterday was well received. SAAB was able to get the Emergency Preparedness concern before the PS&NS Committee at the same time SAAB makes its annual presentation. At this point, we are looking at sometime in June or July 2007. A decision was made to prepare the presentation and a powerpoint presentation and have it ready to go.

**Invitation to Councilmembers to attend SAAB monthly meetings:** Council members and/or their representatives will be given notice of future SAAB board meetings.

**New Business:**

**Senior Issue(s):** As SAAB takes forward the Emergency Preparedness Issue for seniors, new and upcoming items will be brought forward over time.

**SAAB Annual Report:** Preparing to draft report to be presented in June or July of 2006. A docket date of June or July is being sought.

**Announcements/Public Comment:**

Joanne Price announced that her organization is working to get out a list of guidelines which is a document that outlines guidelines to consider when hiring/contracting for caregivers to seniors.

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

*Next Meeting – Wednesday, June 7, 2006*

*Chairperson: Patrick Ford*

*SAAB website: <http://www.sandiego.gov/city-clerk/boards-commissions/senior.shtml>*

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